

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 INR-07 EB-07 L-02 OFA-01

A-01 ABF-01 /049 W

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R 211918Z APR 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 6674

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 10137

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COPENHAGEN FOR FISHERIES ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OECD, EAGR, EFIS

SUBJECT: MISSION RECOMMENDS USG EVALUATION OF USEFUL-  
NESS AND RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF OECD FISHERIES ACTIVITY

1. SUMMARY: MISSION RECOMMENDS USG EVALUATION OF USE-  
FULNESS AND RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF OECD FISHERIES  
ACTIVITY.

2. IN RESPONSE TO LETTER SENT TO HIM DIRECTLY BY  
ROBERT W. SCHONING, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES

SERVICE, NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRA-  
TION, COMPLAINING ABOUT CUTS IN FISHERIES PROGRAM OF O  
OECD, SECGEN VAN LENNEP POINTED OUT THAT REDUCTION  
IN FISHERIES AND OTHER PROGRAMS IN PART I OF BUDGET WAS  
DICTATED BY THE NEED FOR THE OECD TO REALLOCATE SCARCE  
RESOURCES

TO DEAL WITH NEW PROBLEMS SUCH AS ENERGY IN RESPONSE TO  
PRIORITIES OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS INCLUDING US.

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3. SECGEN HAS PROVIDED US WITH A COPY OF

SCHONING'S LETTER AND HIS RESPONSE WHICH WERE SENT EUR/  
RPE ATTENTION: LEVINE.

4. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REMIND OFFICIALS OF DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMERCE OF APPROPRIATE PROCEDURE FOR ADDRESSING SUCH  
ISSUE.

5. MORE IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, THIS CASE ILLUSTRATES THE  
NEED FOR CONTINUING REVIEW BY DEPARTMENT AND GUIDANCE TO  
THE MISSION RE VARIOUS OECD ACTIVITIES, WHICH MAY HAVE  
PARTICULAR CONSTITUENCIES IN THE WASHINGTON BUREAUCRACY.  
WHEN THE US DELEGATION ON INSTRUCTIONS JOINS WITH OTHER  
COUNTRIES IN IMPOSING VIRTUAL CEILINGS ON  
GROWTH OF REAL RESOURCES FOR OECD SECRETARIAT, AT THE  
SAME TIME ACTIVELY URGING SECRETARIAT TO DEVOTE NECESSARY  
RESOURCES TO NEW ACTIVITIES MANY OF WHICH ARISE FROM US  
ACTIVITIES WILL BE SQUEEZED OR CUT BACK.

6. ON THE WHOLE, MISSION HAS BEEN ABLE TO REFLECT RELATIVE  
PRIORITIES IN THE BUDGET REVIEW PROCESS. HOWEVER IN  
TIMES OF CONSIDERABLE BUDGET STRINGENCY (AND J1975 BUDGET  
IS CASE IN POINT), DELEGATIONS VIRTUALLY HAVE NO CHOICE  
BUT TO RELY ON SECGEN TO MAKE CUTS HE DEEMS REFLECT USE  
OF RESOURCES IN MANNER MOST RESPONSIVE TO PRIORITIES OF  
MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. EVEN IN THESE CASES MISSION EXERTS  
ITS INFLUENCE WITH SECGEN TO ASSURE THAT MAIN AREAS OF  
PRIORITY CONCERN TO US ARE ADEQUATELY SERVICED.

7. TO DO ITS JOB PROPERLY THE MISSION MUST RELY ON THE  
DEPARTMENT'S JUDGMENTS AND MEDIATION AMONG CLAIMS OF  
VARIOUS WASHINGTON AGENCIES. FISHERIES IS A CASE IN  
POINT. WE HAVE NO REAL FISHERIES EXPERTISE ON OUR STAFF  
(BUT NEITHER DO WE HAVE EXPERTS ON MANY OF THE OTHER  
MULTIFARIOUS OECD ACTIVITIES). HOWEVER, THE REGIONAL  
FISHERIES ATTACHE IN COPENHAGEN OCCASIONALLY ATTENDS  
OECD FISHERIES COMMITTEE MEETINGS. THE PROBLEM IS TO  
JUDGE THE REAL US INTEREST IN THIS ACTIVITY AND THIS CAN

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ONLY BE DONE IN WASHINGTON IN CONSULTATION WITH  
INTERESTED AGENCIES.

8. FRANCE HAS CONSISTENTLY PUSHED FOR THE ABOLITION OF  
THE FISHERIES COMMITTEE AND THE FISHERIES DIVISION.  
WHILE GENERALLY COUCHED IN TERMS OF INTEREST IN THE  
EFFICIENCY OF THE SECRETARIAT WE SUSPECT THAT THE FRENCH  
POSITION MAY BE BASED ON FRANCE'S DESIRE TO PURSUE ITS  
INTERESTS THROUGH A COMMON FISHERIES POLICY IN EC AND  
ABOLISH A FORUM WHERE FRENCH FISHERIES POLICY MAY COME  
UNDER CRITICAL EXAMINATION. THE OTHER LARGE MEMBER  
COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN RATHER PASSIVE IN THIS MATTER.  
THE SMALL MEMBER COUNTRIES, ON THE OTHER HAND, PARTICULAR-  
LY THE SCANDINAVIANS AND THE PORTUGUESE, HAVE GIVEN  
STRONG SUPPORT TO THIS ACTIVITY WITHIN OECD.

THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT SUCH FISHERIES POLICY  
PROBLEMS AS THE EXTENSION OF FISHERY LIMITS BY COASTAL  
NATIONS, LARGER INVESTMENTS IN THE FACE OF DIMINISHING  
RETURNS, GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZATION, OVERFISHING, AND MANY  
OTHERS REQUIRE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. BUT WHAT  
ISSUES NEED TO BE TAKEN UP IN OECD, AN ORGANIZATION OF  
LIKE-MINDED (ON THE WHOLE) DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, AND WHAT  
ACTIVITIES CAN BEST BE HANDLED IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL  
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BODIES?

9. IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL TO HAVE THE RESULTS OF THIS  
REVIEW WITH SOME JUDGMENT ON RELATIVE PRIORITIES BY  
JUNE TO BE USED IN CONNECTION WITH INITIAL DEVELOPMENT  
OF OECD 1976 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET.  
TURNER

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